

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 21-26 with the following paragraph:

In practice, due to the problem of providing a reliable connection, often the rotation is stopped, when e.g. a drill needs to be retracted or when an inspection apparatus has to be lowered. This greatly increases the risk of the tube getting stuck due to the settling of the ground or due to a phenomenon known in ~~teh~~ the field as differential sticking.

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 8-21 with the following paragraph:

The oscillating movement can be such that each alternating angular movement is substantially equal in magnitude, such as to achieve a symmetric pattern. However, it is also possible to perform a series of alternating rotating movements that are not equal in magnitude, e.g. a series of alternating movements that provide a gradual angular drift which may have an oscillating pattern so that the total angle of rotation remains within a limited angular range at all times or be a drift in one ~~senseso~~ sense so that the total angle of rotation remains within a limited angular range for a limited duration only. Such a duration may for instance be of sufficient length to perform operation on or with the tube, such as steering the drilling direction or connecting an end of tube material to the tube.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 22 through page 9, line 2 with the following paragraph:

The drilling table 8 is mounted on leg structures 19 of which the effective length can be changed, e.g. by means of hydraulic cylinders. The drilling table 8 is ~~proved~~ provided with grippers 10A frictionally engaging the outer circumference of the proximal end of the casing 1 projecting from the borehole 2 beyond the surface 7. These grippers are capable of supporting the full weight of the tube plus the upward friction and transmitting left and right hand torque to the tube to a maximum of the torsional strength limit of the tube. As the drill 5 cuts through the ground 3, the casing 1 is advanced axially along its axis A into the borehole 2 by decreasing the length of the legs 10. To decrease the friction in axial direction between the casing 1 and the borehole 2, the

casing is moved about its axis A in a series of alternating, angularly opposite rotating movements within a pre-selected angular range of rotation.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 9-20 with the following paragraph:

In ~~an other~~ another embodiment of the invention shown in fig. 2A the welding or cutting process is not combined with an upper table 20 to keep the leg structure compact, e.g. with a stroke of typically less than 3 meters. The welding or cutting process in this embodiment is contained in a welding apparatus 26A that is clamped to the tube 1 by means of clamps 26B and comprises alignment means for aligning tube section 4B. The welding apparatus 26A can be moved axially along the tube 1. The table 8A is rotationally disposed on the blowout preventor 9A and allows axial insertion, while the clamps 10B are provided ~~with~~ to retain the tube while the legs 19A are stretched in an upward stroke.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 24-32 with the following paragraph:

As a first step, the mud chamber 42 is axially moved upwards (fig. 3B) and the mud supply 13 is adjusted to feed mud through the secondary flexible hose 14A, while the supply through the flexible hose 14 is cut (fig. 3C). This can be performed by a set of suitable valves. The mud flow is indicated with arrows P and ~~P+~~ P'. Simultaneously, the packer 16 is released, e.g. by hydraulic operation, and is retracted via the flexible hose 14 until it is located in the mud chamber 43 near the adjustable seal 45.